10-23
(June 1941)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

	ROGERS	
✓	JOHNSTON	
✓	JOFFE	
	SMITH	
	MACDONALD	
	SHEFFY	
	QUIST	
	SOMERVILLE	
✓	BAUER	
✓	BARROWS	
	ELLIOTT	
	EVANS	
	CHAPMAN	
✓	WOHLARANDT	
	ROBINSON	

FILE NO. 207-02.3

MONTHLY REPORT

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

JULY
1943

IMPORTANT

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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 1, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Director.

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of July 1943:

Weather Conditions. The weather was very favorable during July, with a satisfactory growing season and a low fire danger until the last week of the month. The late spring and summer was responsible for most of the streams remaining very high throughout most of the month and the water level for Yellowstone Lake broke all records. It was not until July 26 that the fire danger became serious but on that date several lightning storms occurred, which resulted in a number of fires, only one of which, at Lamar River, required large crews to combat.

While travel was particularly light due to tire and gas rationing, the weather was very comfortable for park visitors. There were 12 clear days during the month 12 partly cloudy and 7 cloudy. The maximum temperature was 91° on July 25 and the minimum 36° on the 19th. Total precipitation for the month was .25 inch, as against .35 inch in July 1942.

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers remained in the park throughout the month but made one trip to the Jackson Hole on July 12, with Congressman O'Leary of New York and Mr. Evan Taylor, investigator for Congressman O'Leary's sub-committee, and to meet Director Drury.

While tire and gas rationing and the war in general had a very material effect on park travel, it was surprising to note the number of cars which were able to get to the park. A large part of the travel consisted of men in uniform on furlough and changing stations and persons going from east to west, or vice versa, in changing positions or visiting men in the service or in defense industries. However, a great deal of the travel consisted of fishermen from the nearby states and Fishing Bridge proved far more popular than did either Old Faithful or Mammoth. A total of 19,256 persons entered the park during the month of July (an average of 621 per day) as against 56,202 during July 1942. One thousand one hundred forty three persons entered the park on July 3, 2,247 on July 4, and 924 on July 5. The available accommodations in the park were taxed to capacity during this three-day holiday period

The Red Lodge-Cooke highway was not open to travel this year until July 28, when the first cars started over it. As no government funds were available for opening the road and as neither the State of Montana nor the State of Wyoming would participate in the snow removal, it was necessary for the citizens of Red Lodge to raise funds for renting a plow to remove a number of the snow drifts to open the highway to travel.

The high water in many of the park streams throughout most of the month was responsible for poor fishing in these streams, although some of the lakes and the Firehole and Madison Rivers on the west side of the park and the Yellowstone River around Fishing Bridge afforded excellent fishing. The Yellowstone River between Lake and Canyon was open to fishing on July 1.

Inspections. John C. Beebe, Frank [illegible] Beaver and John [illegible] Cotton, Federal Power Commission, in north July 2; Lewis Clair Likes, Legal Investigator, [illegible], Salt Lake City, in west July 6 to check on Utah cars visiting the park; [illegible] J. Murie, Fish and Wildlife Service, Jackson, Wyoming, in July [illegible] to carry on special bear investigations; Sidney [illegible] Graf, Assistant to Regional Director, OPA, and Henry Katenpaugh, State Director, [illegible], Cheyenne, Wyoming, in east July 11 for conference with local Ration Board; Colonel Robert [illegible] Harrison and Major Melton, U. S. Army, Ft. Harrison, Montana, in July 16 to make arrangements for recreational bivouacking of troops in park; Newton B. Drury, Director, National Park Service, in south July 16; Dr. Malcolm Cole, Dr. F. A. Brooks, Dr. S. W. Grinnell and Captain J. H. Ritter (C.E.) of the National Defense Research Committee Laboratory, Dugway Proving Grounds, Tooele, Utah, in July 16 to discuss arrangements for conducting chemical warfare experiments in the park; Conrad L. Wirth, Chief of Lands, N.P.S., Chicago, Howard Baker, Chief of Planning, Region Two, and Victor H. Cahalane, Fish and Wildlife Service handling National Park Service matters, in south July 17; A. V. Williamson, Robert Ford and Howard Cowan, Engineers for the PRA, Denver, in July 18; John G. Lewis, Chief Ranger, Grand Teton National Park, in July 18; H. L. Shantz, Chief, Division of Wildlife Management, Forest Service, Washington, D. C., in July 22 with L. H. Abbott, Forest Supervisor, Gallatin National Forest, Bozeman; [illegible] Corkadel, District Supervisor, Interstate Commerce Commission, Casper, Wyoming, in July 24; E. B. Whitaker, Field Assistant Director, NPA, Little Rock, Arkansas, in east July 24.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. The office work in the Engineer's office consisted mostly of routine matters and the assignment of personnel for maintenance crews. All maintenance crews were given one day of fire fighting training. Inspections were made of proposed bridge locations on the Yellowstone River near Tower Falls with Mr. Baker of the Regional Office and PRA engineers from Denver, and a check was made on the location of the Gibbon River bridge at Madison Junction.

General Publicity. No press releases were sent out from the park during the month. The circular of general information sheet covering accommodations and services available in the park for the summer was revised for the second time on July 25 and a copy is attached.

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Road Maintenance. In starting the maintenance crews in June instead of April and May as in former years, the maintenance operations were somewhat retarded. The shortage of labor was also a contributing factor. However, the park roads in general are in good condition, with the exception of the Gallatin section which is very rough and is going to pieces under the pounding of the heavy oil tankers using this section.

Sixteen thousand gallons of RC-2 seal coat was placed and approximately the same amount of MC-2 was used for sealing. Several sections were resurfaced and with dry weather throughout the month good results were obtained.

Yellowstone Lake reached its highest recorded record during the month and the wind and wave action caused considerable damage to the road and parking areas in the vicinity of Steamboat Point, Gary's Bay and near the Thumb mess house. These washes were temporarily repaired by dumping large quantities of rock along the washed sections. Final repairs will be made later this fall.

The power shovel is still being operated in the Gallatin section, placing a coarse base on approximately six-tenths of a mile of road.

A small crew of men are working on guard rail in the Canyon section. At least three-fourths of the wooden guard rail in the park is in need of replacement. Only a small portion will be replaced this year due to labor shortage.

The rail and deck logs on Fishing Bridge are deteriorating very rapidly with dry rot very evident. These logs were given a coat of stain when placed and it is doubtful if any treatment would help them.

All road crews were on forest fires at the close of the month, mostly on the Lewis River fire.

Other Maintenance. The remaining shipment of asbestos shingles for house 5A and B was received and shingling of this residence will soon be completed. Several small sheds were reshingled and repaired and a number of valve boxes made for the Sanitation Department. A number of the larger wooden signs were redecorated.

Park Operators. Accommodations were available in the park, as outlined in the attached circular of information issued under date of July 25.

The park medical officer obtained nurses for [illegible] Fishing Bridge and these nurses arrived at their stations on July [illegible]. A nurse has been available at Mammoth Hot Springs. Dr. [illegible] Windsor, the park medical officer, who has been visiting in the east for several months to regain his health, returned to Livingston on July 26.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. Nineteen thousand two hundred fifty-six persons entered the park during July as compared to 26,[illegible] during the same

month last year. The total entering the park for this travel year to date is 35,341 compared to 118,356 persons for 1942, or a decrease of -70.1 percent.

Five thousand six hundred and one cars entered the park in July, compared with 15,985 for the same month in 1942. The total cars entering the park for this travel year is 10,95[illegible] compared to 36,177 for 1942, or a decrease of -[illegible],218 or -69.7 percent.

Visitors. Congressman James A. O'Leary and Congressman [illegible] J. [illegible]pozzoli, of New York, and Evan Taylor, investigator for a congressional sub-committee inspecting shipyards, in north July 12; out north July 15.

C. F. Seifried, Wyoming State Highway Engineer, Gwynne [illegible] [illegible]chenmaker, Chairman of the Wyoming State Highway Commission, and [illegible] [illegible], a member of the Commission, in south July 20, out east July 20. Mr. Seifried died in Cody the following day.

W. E. Sanderson, of the National Audubon Society, in south July [illegible] to conduct experiments on bears with electric prods; out south July 20.

Richard [illegible]. Pollett, of New York City, in west July 16 for gathering information in connection with experiments to be conducted outside park near West Yellowstone in raising trumpeter swan; out west July 19.

Congressman Walter [illegible]. Ploeser of Missouri, a member of the Appropriations Committee, in east July 30 with Mrs. Ploeser.

Ranger Service. The month of July was extremely dry with considerable hot weather and several dry lightning storms. It was, therefore, necessary for the ranger force to engage in much pre-suppression work as well as actually engage in the suppression of fourteen fires.

Due to the lateness of the season considerable work was necessary to put the primary lookouts in operation but was not accomplished in June and much of this work was carried on by the Protection Department in July. This was also true with trail and telephone maintenance, especially in the higher elevations.

One vacancy occurred in the Seasonal Ranger Force on July [illegible] and the force has numbered fourteen since that time.

With the reduced ranger personnel, considerable moving around of the force was necessary during periods when fires occurred in order that the necessary ranger work be performed both on the fires and at the various stations.

Police Protection. Eleven law enforcement cases were held before the [illegible] Commissioner during the month.

Charges	Fines and Jail Sentences	No. of Persons	No. of Cases
Speeding	$240.50	1	10
Petit Larceny	30 days	1	1

Accidents. No automobile accidents occurred during the month of May.

Wildlife Administration.

Comparative Bear Injuries and Damages

	1943 June	1943 July	Season to Date	1944 June	1944 July	Season to Date
Personal Injuries	1	1	2	9	7	16
Property Damages	4	16	20	44	45	89
Total Incidents	5	17	22	53	52	105
Bears Killed	1	6	7	9	24	33

The number of black bears frequenting the utility area at Fishing Bridge increased sharply during July and by the end of the month had become the source of considerable trouble. Several bears were trapped and transported to other more isolated areas but most of these returned to the location where they were trapped. Action to finally dispose of the more persistent animals was deferred to permit further study by Messrs. Victor Cahalane and [illegible] J. Murie, who devoted considerable time to the bear problem. Mr. Murie will continue the studies through the summer.

One grizzly bear was trapped and removed from the Fishing Bridge area. It is worthy of note that it has not been necessary so far this season to dispose of any grizzly bears by shooting.

The bear situation shows great improvement over last year.

Little trouble with roadside feeding of bears has been observed and the bear situation has been most serious at Fishing Bridge and Old Faithful where the animals have been foraging in the garbage cans. Every effort is being made to provide for prompt removal and disposal of garbage which is being burned in pits well removed from the utility areas.

Fish Culture and Fish Planting. Spawn collection operations carried on at Yellowstone Lake by the Fish and Wildlife Service were terminated for the season on July 22 when a total of 29,008,370 had been taken. Late season and abnormally high water hampered the spawn collection work but the total taken was sufficient to fill all needs and is below the limit of [illegible],000,000 agreed upon by the two Services.

Fish planted during the month were as follows:

Source	Species	Number	Size	Transported by
Emigrant	Brook trout	44,500	3	State of Montana
Emigrant	Blackspotted	42,000	[illegible]	State of Montana
Bozeman	Loch Leven	50,000	2	Fish and Wildlife Service
Bozeman	Rainbow	40,000	1	Fish and Wildlife Service
Ennis	Rainbow	8,000	5	Fish and Wildlife Service
Grebe Lake	Grayling	1,185,150	Fry	Fish and Wildlife Service
Grebe Lake	Grayling	755,000	Fingerling	Fish and Wildlife Service

The Yellowstone River continued to rise during the first part of July but provided good fishing despite the high water. Other streams in the park gradually receded and fishing was excellent during the last half of July, particularly on the west side of the park.

Zoological Studies - Northern Winter Range. District Ranger Grimm, assisted by Assistant Park Naturalist McDougall, devoted approximately one-half of their time to studies of the northern winter range. Established transects of the range were read and the data collected will be supplemented by pictures showing current range conditions. Intensive studies of protected lots and volume plots will not be carried on this season due to a shortage of personnel for this work.

Forest Fire Protection. Fifteen fires were reported during July. Twelve of these were found and all were out or under control by the end of the month with the exception of the Lewis River fire. Three fires which were reported were not found and it is believed they were rained out. Of the twelve fires upon which suppression work was performed, seven fires were Class A, four were Class B and one Class E. The greater part of the suppression work was accomplished by the park road crews. The U. S. Employment Service offices in Livingston and Bozeman were unable to furnish more than [illegible] men. Dry lightning storms which occurred on July 26 and 27 were responsible for these fires.

Edmund B. Rogers,
Superintendent.

Enclosure
cc- Region Two

United States
Department of the Interior
National Park Service

July 25, 1943

A C C O M M O D A T I O N S A N D S E R V I C E S

REVENT FOREST FIRES — YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK — BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE

SEASON OF 1943

Yellowstone National Park will be open during the 1943 season to take care of uch visitors as might be able to reach the park. None of the hotels, lodges or afeterias will be in operation during the season. None of the railroads serving he park will deliver passengers to the various gateways with the exception of the orthern Pacific, which will run daily bus service, except Sundays, from the main ine at Livingston, Montana, to Gardiner, Montana, the north entrance.

No buses will be operated in the park so that travel will be confined entirely o persons having their own transportation.

ROADS

All park roads now open to travel and all approach roads, except northeast entrance road from Red Lodge to Cooke. Opening date this highway indefinite.

ACCOMMODATIONS

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS - Pryor general store and gasoline filling station; Pryor tore (meals) and Pryor Coffee Shop (lodging).

OLD FAITHFUL - Hamilton general store and gasoline filling station; garage service; meals and lodgings and fountain service in general store. Tourist cabins furnished and unfurnished).

FISHING BRIDGE - Hamilton general store and gasoline filling station; garage ervice; meals and lodgings and fountain service in general store. Tourist cabins furnished and unfurnished). Boats for hire.

HAYNES PICTURE SHOPS

Haynes picture shops at Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful. Film, postcards, aynes Guides, etc. available at Fishing Bridge at Hamilton store.

RATES

Meals at Pryor store at Mammoth and Hamilton stores at Old Faithful and ishing Bridge; breakfast 75¢; lunch $1.00; dinner $1.00. Fountain service available at these three locations.

Lodging at Pryor Coffee Shop at Mammoth and Hamilton stores at Old Faithful and ishing Bridge; $1.50 per night single; $2.50 per night double.

Tourist cabins at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge; furnished cabins (not including cooking utensils), one person, per night $1.75; two persons, per night, 3.00. Partially furnished cabins: $1.00 for one person, per night; $1.25 to 4.00 for two to four persons per night.

BATHING

Neither the swimming pool at Mammoth Hot Springs nor the swimming pool at Old aithful will be open. Public baths at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge tourist abins - shower baths 25¢.

SADDLE HORSES

No saddle horses for hire in park.

MAIL

Only the main post office at Mammoth Hot Springs, the park headquarters, will e open. Mail must be called for at this post office.

- over -

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Telephone booths for long distance and park service available at the Haynes Picture Shop at Mammoth, Hamilton store and tourist cabins at Old Faithful and Hamilton store and tourist cabins at Fishing Bridge.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE

No telegraph stations will be operated in the park. Incoming telegrams for the park will be received at the Northern Pacific Depot at Gardiner and 'phoned into the park. Outgoing telegrams from the park will be 'phoned to the telegraph office in the depot at Gardiner.

MEDICAL SERVICE

The Mammoth hospital will not be operated. Nurse available at Mammoth; Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge.

LAUNDRY

No laundry service will be available in the park.

CHURCH SERVICES

No regularly scheduled church services in the park. Ministers from Livingston will conduct services in the chapel at Mammoth about once a month.

FISHING

Fishing season: May 30 to October 15, except in special areas. NO FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED. Boats for rent at Fishing Bridge. Fishing regulations available at ranger stations and contained in 1942 folder, which are available at park entrances and ranger stations.

MUSEUMS

The museums at Mammoth and Old Faithful will be open on scheduled hours. No guide or lecture service. Self-guiding trails at Mammoth and Old Faithful.

HOURS FOR GATES

The park gates will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m..

CAMPGROUNDS

The following campgrounds will be open for campers; Madison Junction; Lewis Lake; Pebble Creek; Mammoth; Indian Creek; Lava Creek; Old Faithful; Fishing Bridge, West Thumb; Specimen Creek; Norris.

The following campgrounds will not be open: Snake River; Canyon; Tower Falls; Yellowstone Cascades.

LITERATURE

As funds are not available for the publication of a Government folder for the 1943 season and due to changing conditions the 1942 folder for the park, containing a good map, general regulations and information on the park features, will be available at all entrance and ranger stations.

FIREWOOD

For sale at tourist cabins at Old Faithful and Fishing Bridge.

BUFFALO SHOW HERD AND GRIZZLY BEAR GROUNDS

The buffalo corral at Antelope Creek and the Grizzly Bear Grounds at Canyon will not be open to the public.

ENTRANCE FEE

The regular $3.00 motor vehicle license fee and $1.00 house trailer fee will be charged.

MAXIMUM SPEED 35 MILES - STRICTLY ENFORCED. DON'T FEED THE BEARS!

Edmund B. Rogers,
Superintendent.